

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 05468 060803Z
ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----028766 060903Z /10 S
O 060700Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8919
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: OVIP, AF
SUBJ: UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM'S TRIP

REF: A) STATE 170071, B) KABUL 5451

1. RE QUESTION RAISED IN PARA TWO OF REFTEL A, THE ARRIVAL OF 1235 HOURS FOR UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM IS TUDEN DIRECTLY FROM FLIGHT INFORMATION PROVIDED BY EMBASSY TEHRAN DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE. PLEASE SEE EMBASSY TEHRAN (FROM USDAO TEHRAN) MSG 012145Z JUL 78, ACTION COPIES OF WHICH WERE SENT TO TWO WASHINGTON ADDRESSEES.

2. OUR EMBASSY KABUL AIR ATTACHE STATES THAT FLIGHT TIMES GIVEN IN EMBASSY TEHRAN'S DEFENSE ATTACHE MESSAGE ARE LOGICAL GIVEN THE DOGLEG ROUTES A C-12 AIRCRAFT IS REQUIRED TO FOLLOW FROM DELHI TO KABUL. IF DEPARTMENT HAS ANY QUESTION ON THIS, URGE YOU CHECK WITH EMBASSY TEHRAN AND EMBASSY ISLAMABAD'S AIR ATTACHE OFFICES.

3. WHILE WE OURSELVES WOULD BE PLEASED IF MR. NEWSOM COULD ARRIVE EARLIER, IT WOULD BE POLITIC AS FAR AS AFGHAN GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED IF HE PLANNED TO ARRIVE
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AS SCHEDULED AT 1235. THE AFGHAN FOREIGN MINISTRY INFORMED US YESTERDAY THAT THE CHANGE FROM 1130 TO 1235 HOURS WAS MUCH BETTER FOR THEM, SINCE THERE WAS A VIP CONFLICT AT THE AIRPORT AT THE EARLIER TIME. SINCE THERE IS AN AEROFLOT FLIGHT TO MOSCOW LEAVING AT ABOUT 1130 HOURS, WE SURMISE THAT ANOTHER OF A CONTINUOUS STREAM OF SOVIET VIPS WILL BE LEAVING AT THAT TIME,

AND CONSEQUENTLY, THE AFGHANS DO NOT WISH TO BE EMBARRASSED
BY HAVING TWO SETS OF VIPS TO HANDLE SIMULTANEOUSLY AT
KABUL'S SMALL AIRPORT. WE, THEREFORE, RECOMMEND MR. NEWSOM
ARRIVE AT 1235 HOURS AS PLANNED BY EMBASSY TEHRAN'S
AIR ATTACHE.
AMSTUTZ

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Message Attributes

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